

**Abstract**

The compounds secoisolariciresinol (SECO), enterodiol (ED) and enterolactone (EL), which are metabolites of secoisolariciresinol diglucoside obtained from flaxseed, are used for the treatment of diseases or conditions requiring administration of an antioxidant. Diseases or conditions that may be treated include hypercholesterolemic atherosclerosis, type I and type II diabetes, ischemic heart disease, heart failure, endotoxic and hemorrhagic shock, inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis, Parkinson's disease, and stroke.

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